

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A process for the production of alkyl salicylic acids comprising reacting salicylic acid
2 with an olefin having at least four carbon atoms at elevated temperature in the presence of a
3 perfluoroalkylsulfonic acid, an alkylsulfonic acid, or an acidic clay as a catalyst.
- 1 2. The process of claim 1 wherein the catalyst is anhydrous methanesulfonic acid.
- 1 3. The process of claim 1 wherein the olefin is selected from the group consisting of
2 isobutylene, propylene trimer, propylene tetramer, 1-hexene, 1-octene, 1-decene, 1-dodecene,
3 1-tetradecene, 1-hexadecene, 1-octadecene, 1-eicosene, 1-docosene, 1-tetracosene, and
4 mixtures of the foregoing.
- 1 4. The process of claim 2 wherein the olefin is selected from the group consisting of
2 isobutylene, propylene trimer, propylene tetramer, 1-hexene, 1-octene, 1-decene, 1-dodecene,
3 1-tetradecene, 1-hexadecene, 1-octadecene, 1-eicosene, 1-docosene, 1-tetracosene, and
4 mixtures of the foregoing.
- 1 5. The process of claim 1 wherein said elevated temperature is at least about 50° C.
- 1 6. The process of claim 5 wherein said elevated temperature is in the range of from about
2 120° to about 160° C.

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1 7. A composition comprising an alkyl salicylic acid prepared by a process comprising
2 reacting salicylic acid with an olefin having at least four carbon atoms at elevated temperature
3 in the presence of a perfluoroalkylsulfonic acid, an alkylsulfonic acid, or an acidic clay as a
4 catalyst.

1 8. The composition of claim 7 wherein the catalyst is anhydrous methanesulfonic acid.

1 9. The composition of claim 7 wherein the olefin is selected from the group consisting of
2 isobutylene, propylene trimer, propylene tetramer, 1-hexene, 1-octene, 1-decene, 1-dodecene,
3 1-tetradecene, 1-hexadecene, 1-octadecene, 1-eicosene, 1-docosene, 1-tetracosene, and
4 mixtures of the foregoing.

1 10. The composition of claim 8 wherein the olefin is selected from the group consisting of
2 isobutylene, propylene trimer, propylene tetramer, 1-hexene, 1-octene, 1-decene, 1-dodecene,
3 1-tetradecene, 1-hexadecene, 1-octadecene, 1-eicosene, 1-docosene, 1-tetracosene, and
4 mixtures of the foregoing.

1 11. The composition of claim 7 wherein said elevated temperature is at least about 50° C.

1 12. The composition of claim 11 wherein said elevated temperature is in the range of from
2 about 120° to about 160° C.